

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:EHURWITZ/FDR

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R 192216Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157147

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (POPOV,IVAN)

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER POPOV

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT LETTER TO POPOV FROM SECY DENT
CONFIRMING INVITATION FOR VISIT BEGINNING SEPT 23. SIGNED
LETTER BEING POUCHED. WOULD APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR DE-
LIVERING TEXT TO POPOV NOTING THAT SIGNED ORIGINAL LETTER
WOULD BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS IT RECEIVED. BEGIN TEXT:
HIS EXCELLENCY,IVAN POPOV,DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTEROF BULGARIA, SOFIA BULGARIA. DEAR PROFESSOR POPOV:
IT WAS A PLEASURE TO MEET WITH YOU DURING MY RECENT VISIT
TO SOFIA, AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR THE WARMTH AND
GRACIOUSNESS WITH WHICH YOU RECEIVED OUR DELEGATES. PARA.
I CONSIDER THAT OUR MEETINGS WERE A VALUABLE STEP TOWARD THE
IMPROVEMENT OF COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND BULGARIA. THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE SHOULD CON-
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TINUE, AND IN THIS CONNECTION WE HAVE DISCUSSED THROUGH OUR

EMBASSY YOUR PLANNED VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. PARA.
ACCORDINGLY, I WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM MY INVITATION CONVEYED
ORALLY TO YOU BY OUR AMBASSADOR, MARTIN HERZ, ON JULY 1,
TO VISIT WASHINGTON AS MY OFFICIAL GUEST SEPTEMBER 23-24.
WE SHALL ARRANGE A SUITABLE PROGRAM FOR YOU WHICH WILL IN-
CLUDE CALLS ON GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON. WE SHALL
ALSO BE HAPPY TO ASSIST IN ARRANGING MEETINGS WITH THE
UNITED STATES BUSINESS COMMUNITY. SIGNED: FREDERICK
DENT, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE END TEXT.

2. AT THE TIME YOU DELIVER MESSAGE, WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR
INFORMING POPOV THAT WE WILL NOT BE PREPARED TO SIGN ANY
GOVERNMENTAL EXCHANGES AGREEMENTS DURING HIS VISIT. AT
YOUR DISCRETION, YOU MIGHT POINT OUT THAT VARIOUS GOVERN-
MENT AGENCIES INVOLVED HERE GENERALLY APPROACH SUCH AGREE-
MENTS DELIBERATELY AND THAT THERE SIMPLY WOULD NOT BE
ENOUGHT TIME TO NEGOTIATE SATISFACTORY AGREEMENTS BEFORE
POPOV VISIT. IF YOU THINK IT IS HELPFUL, YOU MIGHT NOTE
THAT WE HAVE HAD UNDER CONSIDERATION EXCHANGES AGREEMENTS
WITH HUNGARY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR PAST YEAR OR SO, BUT
HAVE NOT PROCEEDED TO NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS. INGERSOLL

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